

nursing and in the pipeline for nursing programs;

(B) an increasing number of graduating nurses and improved nurse graduation and licensure rates;

(C) improved nurse retention;

(D) an increase in the number of staff nurses at the healthcare facility involved;

(E) an increase in the number of nurses with advanced degrees in nursing;

(F) an increase in the number of nurse faculty;

(G) improved measures of patient quality (which may include staffing ratios of nurses, patient satisfaction rates, patient safety measures); and

(H) an increase in the diversity of new nurse graduates relative to the patient population.

(2) GENERAL REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Labor shall, using data and information from the reports received under paragraph (1), submit to Congress a report concerning the overall effectiveness of the grant program carried out under this section.

(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section, such sums as may be necessary.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 319—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING THE UNITED STATES TRANSPORTATION COMMAND ON ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. DURBIN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 319

Whereas the Goldwater-Nichols Department of Defense Reorganization Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-433) revoked prohibitions on the consolidation of military transportation functions, and President Reagan subsequently ordered the establishment of a unified transportation command within the Armed Forces;

Whereas October 1, 2007, marks the 20th year anniversary of the activation of the United States Transportation Command at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois;

Whereas the United States Transportation Command consists of—

(1) the United States Transportation Command at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois;

(2) the Air Mobility Command at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois;

(3) the Military Sealift Command in Washington, District of Columbia; and

(4) the Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois;

Whereas Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm provided a wartime test for the United States Transportation Command, resulting in a command that is fully operational in both peacetime and wartime;

Whereas the United States Transportation Command has continued to prove its worth during United States contingency operations, such as Operation Desert Thunder (enforcing United Nations resolutions in Iraq) and Operation Allied Force (North Atlantic Treaty Organization operations against Serbia), and United States peacekeeping endeavors, such as Operation Restore Hope (in Somalia), Operation Support Hope (in Rwanda), Operation Uphold Democ-

racy (in Haiti), Operation Joint Endeavor (in Bosnia-Herzegovina), and Operation Joint Guardian (in Kosovo);

Whereas the United States Transportation Command has also supported numerous humanitarian relief operations transporting relief supplies to victims of natural disasters at home and abroad;

Whereas the United States Transportation Command is a vital element in the war against terrorism, supporting the Armed Forces around the world;

Whereas since October 2001, the United States Transportation Command, and its components and national partners, have transported nearly 4,000,000 passengers, 9,000,000 short tons of cargo, and more than 4,000,000,000 gallons of fuel in support of the war on terrorism;

Whereas in 2003 the Secretary of Defense designated the Commander of the United States Transportation Command as Distribution Process Owner to serve as the single Department of Defense entity to “improve the overall efficiency and interoperability of distribution related activities—deployment, sustainment and redeployment support during peace and war”;

Whereas the Quadrennial Defense Review of 2005 recognized the importance of joint mobility and the critical role that it plays in global power projection; cited the successful investment in cargo transportability, strategic lift, and pre-positioned stock; and called for continued recapitalization and modernization of the airlift and aerial tanker fleet; and

Whereas the assigned responsibilities of the United States Transportation Command include—

(1) providing common-user and commercial transportation, terminal management, and aerial refueling;

(2) providing global patient movement for the Department of Defense through the Defense Transportation System;

(3) serving as the Mobility Joint Force Provider; and

(4) serving as Distribution Process Owner for the Department of Defense: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the sacrifice and commitment of the 155,000 members of the Armed Forces (including the National Guard and Reserve) and civilian employees and contractors that comprise the United States Transportation Command and recognizes the debt of gratitude of the American people;

(2) honors the families of United States Transportation Command members and recognizes their sacrifices while their loved ones are deployed around the world; and

(3) recognizes the success of United States Transportation Command over the last 20 years and its continuing vital contributions to the war against terrorism.

SENATE RESOLUTION 320—RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE IN PURSUIT OF FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY, AND EXPRESSING THE HOPE THAT THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2007, PRESERVE AND EXTEND THESE GAINS AND PROVIDE FOR A STABLE AND REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT

Mr. BIDEN (for himself, Mr. LUGAR, and Mr. CARDIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 320

Whereas the people of Ukraine have overcome financial and political hardships to achieve a democratic system in which decisions have been reached without violence and through free and fair elections;

Whereas Ukraine has already conducted elections considered free, fair, and consistent with the principles of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe on 2 previous occasions;

Whereas the people of Ukraine deserve an elected and representative government that can work together and pass legislation to improve the quality of life for all Ukrainians; and

Whereas the people of Ukraine have successfully established a growing free press, an increasingly independent judiciary, and a respect for human rights and the rule of law, which enhance freedom, stability, and prosperity: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) acknowledges the cooperation and friendship between the people of the United States and the people of Ukraine since the restoration of Ukraine's independence in 1991 and the natural affections of the millions of Americans whose ancestors emigrated from Ukraine;

(2) expresses the admiration of the American people for the ongoing success of the Ukrainian people at removing violence from politics, for which Ukrainians should be proud, in particular the free and fair presidential elections of December 26, 2004, and the parliamentary elections of March 26, 2006;

(3) encourages the people of Ukraine to maintain the democratic successes of the Orange Revolution of 2004, and expresses the hope that the leaders of Ukraine will conduct the September 30, 2007, elections in keeping with the standards of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), of which both the United States and Ukraine are participating states;

(4) urges the leaders and parties of Ukraine to overcome past differences and work together constructively to enhance the economic and political stability of the country that the people of Ukraine deserve; and

(5) pledges the continued assistance of the United States to the continued progress and further development of a free and representative democratic government in Ukraine based on the rule of law and the principle of human rights.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 47—RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AS AN INDEPENDENT MILITARY SERVICE

Mr. ENZI (for himself, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. THUNE, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. BINGAMAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. TESTER, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. BROWN, and Mrs. LINCOLN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. CON. RES. 47

Whereas President Harry S. Truman signed the National Security Act of 1947 on July 26, 1947, to realign and reorganize the Armed Forces and to create a separate Department of the Air Force from the existing military services;

Whereas the National Security Act of 1947 was enacted on September 18, 1947;